The second set is the subordinate clerks in all the departments of the State. At present, their pay is not sufficient to meet the bare necessities of life.

These two sets form the working class in the administrative machinery, and, certainly, it is the duty of the Darbar to give them wages sufficient to live.

The third set is the Sub-Magistrates and the District Magistrate. They seem to have no god-father. When the pay of the Tahsildars and Munsiffs was increased, I am at a loss to know why the Darbar neglected this set of officers. The Sub-Magistrates are stationary and they cannot earn anything even from their T. A. The honour and liberty of the subjects of a Taluk is in the keeping of these officers and, as they are entrusted with judicial work also, they deserve to be placed at least on an equal footing with the Tahsildars. The system of promotion of these officers to other departments is, in my opinion, wrong.

With regard to one item of income under Education, I have to say a word. Rs. 49,600 is collected under the head of Primary Education from boys and girls. When compulsory Primary Education is introduced in British Cochin, two miles away from this hall, we shall not be justified in collecting the said amount.

Coming to the expenditure side of the budget, I find that the total amount budgetted for T. A. is one lakh and twenty-nine thousand and six hundred and sixty rupees. There is ample room for reduction in this amount. There is absolutely no justification in giving double first class and second class railway fares and there is no reason why officers should be given mileage where there is regular motor bus or boat service. If even one and a half is allowed, there is a clear saving of about Rs. 30,000.

D. P. W.—There is no justification to go in for original works with a deficit budget. The sum of Rs. 25,000 provided for electric lighting in Mattancherry also cannot be justified. This allotment is certainly the old proverb of *Puli Val.* Year after year, the Government will have to budget large amounts for the completion of the work and God alone knows what the result will be.

Forest Tramway—With regard to this department, I say it is better to abolish the whole

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

department and save Rs. 1,66,200, instead of losing lakhs, every year. It is a recurring expenditure, without any return, as is clearly seen from the budget.

Agriculture -With regard to this department, I say, we must either end it or mend it. I will take only one item, and that is the Cocoanut Experimental Farm at Vyttila, of which the income is Rs. 1,750 and the expenses run up to Rs. 4,034. I am sure, our President, who owns extensive cocoanut plantations, will not advise anybody to follow this experiment.

Next, 'casual labour' Rs. 7,000 and 'cattle food' Rs. 8,500. We are not in a position to know the nature of this casual labour and there is no data for how many heads of cattle this Rs. 8,500 is intended for.

If the Government will kindly accept some of these suggestions, the budget will not only balance but end in a surplus; and the budget, though not a prosperous one, will not give any room for despair.

Mr. A. SANKARA PUDUVAL (*Trichur*).

Sir,—I have to make a few observations on this budget, not in a spirit of destructive criticism but in a fervent, honest endeavour to see if we could not at least balance the budget. I desire, in the first place, to express our deep sense of gratitude to His Highness the Maharaja who has been pleased to grant us this opportunity to present our views about the administration. Long may His Highness live to see His expectations of this Council realised!

In spite of what the President remarked yesterday, I believe, it is not very difficult to balance our budget. Although our receipts have been increasing from year to year, the annual expenditure has also been increasing more than proportionately, so much so, that we do not stand substantially much better off to-day than how the State stood, thirty years ago. Before dealing with the salient features of the budget, I desire to congratulate the Government in that it has been able to secure as Heads of all the departments, natives, that is to say, our own men. To my knowledge, there

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly